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Ed McKechnie is Chief Commercial Officer for WATCO Companies, a railroad holding company that owns 12 shortline railroads in 12 states. In addition, WATCO provides rail services in another 11 states from Washington to Florida.

In Idaho, WATCO owns the largest shortline network with the Eastern Idaho Railroad and the Great Northwest Railroad; totaling about 300 miles of track. Nationwide, WATCO owns and operates 3,000 miles of track and has more than 1,200 employees.